

THE NATION MUST HONOR OUR  
WORKING FAMILY HEROES

**HON. MAJOR R. OWENS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 16, 2003*

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, the July 10th vote to allow the expenditure of funds to implement radical changes in the overtime provisions of the Wage and Hour Act was an outrageous and devastating attack on working families. Compounding the horror of this action is the recent announcement that our present complement of soldiers in Iraq, ninety percent of whom come from working families, will be forced into combat overtime for the indefinite future. Not even the one year rotation rule of Viet Nam will be applied to relieve their long ordeal under extreme heat and guerrilla warfare duress. Overtime in the dangerous defense of the nation is being mandated without controls while at the same time overtime wages to feed working families is being subjected to new schemes which reduce take-home pay. This is an unacceptable continuation of the gross exploitation and oppression of working families by the Republican's Scrooges who presently dominate the Congress and the White House. This nation faces a tragic predicament: An elite group of juvenile old men have plunged us into a war where great suffering and pain is being inflicted on working families who bear the brunt of the casualties on the front lines as well as the fallout from economic dislocations and recession here at home. It appears that the Republican well-to-do decision makers have great contempt for those who do the dangerous and dirty work for our nation. All Americans must remember the debt we owe to those who risk their last full measure of devotion. Or perhaps the powerful and the rich should go to the front lines first. The RAP poem below is a summary of my indignation on this critical action:

LET THE RICH GO FIRST

Working Families  
Keep your soldiers at home,  
For overtime in Iraq  
No cash  
No comp time  
Not even gratitude,  
Republicans intrude  
To exempt all heroes,  
No combat rotation  
Life on indefinite probation  
Scrooges running the nation.  
To the front lines  
Let the rich go first—  
For blood they got a thirst,  
Let the superstars drink it  
In the glorious trenches;  
Leave the disadvantaged on the benches.  
Working Families  
Let the rich go first:  
The battlegrounds they always choose  
Their estates have the most to lose;  
Send highest IQs to  
Take positions at the front,  
Let them perform their best  
High tech warfare stunt;  
Working Families  
Keep your malnourished sons home—  
Harvard Yale kids should roam  
The world with guns and tanks,  
Reserve gold medals  
For the loyal Ivy League ranks.  
O say you can see  
Millionaire graduates

Dying for you and me?  
Welfare Moms  
Have a message for the masters:  
Tell Uncle Sam  
His TANF pennies he can keep  
For food stamps we refuse to leap  
Through your hoops like beasts;  
Promise to leave our soldier alone  
And we'll find our own feasts.  
To Uncle Sam we offer a bargain—  
Don't throw us dirty crumbs  
Don't treat us like bums  
And then demand  
The full measure of devotion;  
Our minds are now in motion  
Class warfare  
Is not such a bad notion;  
Your swindle will not last  
Recruiters we won't let pass,  
Finally, we opened our eyes—  
Each family is a private enterprise,  
Each child a precious prize;  
We got American property rights,  
Before our children die in war  
This time we'll choose the fights.  
Let the rich go first:  
They worry about  
The overtime we abuse;  
The battlefields they always choose  
Their estates have the most to lose.  
Let the rich go first!

LEGISLATION TO PROHIBIT THE  
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FROM  
IMPOSING A "CARRY TAX"

**HON. RON PAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 2003*

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to protect American liberty, privacy and economic well-being by introducing legislation to prohibit the Federal Government from imposing a "carry tax." A carry tax is a tax imposed on Americans that requires them to pay a tax whenever they make a bank deposit. The amount of the tax is based on how long their money has been in circulation. Hard as it may be to believe, some in the Federal Government have actually considered imposing this tax on American citizens. Since this bill punishes those who rely on cash for the majority of their economic transactions, and since lower income Americans tend to rely on cash for their economic transactions, this is a highly regressive tax plan. Furthermore, since the plan is designed to lower interest rates, it will negatively impact those who rely on investment income for a significant part of their income. Thus, the carry tax will lower the income of millions of senior citizens.

Proposals to punish people if their economic behavior meets with the disapproval of government officials form the foundation of the type of central planning which caused so much misery in the last century. The carry tax proposal is obviously incompatible with a free market. This proposal is also a major threat to personal and financial privacy and thus individual liberty. In order to enforce the carry tax, the government would need a means of monitoring how long each piece of currency has been in circulation and how many hands it passed through before coming into the possession of the person on whom the tax is assessed. Thus, enforcing this tax would also give the government the power to monitor the transactions of individual Americans. The Fed-

eral Government should not abuse the authority granted it by our current monetary system and legal tender laws as a backdoor means of prying into the private economic transactions of American citizens. That is why my legislation also forbids the Federal Government from placing any information storage capacity on any Federal Reserve notes.

The carry tax was proposed as a measure to counteract the perceived risk of deflation. Yet, the problems this carry tax is intended to solve are caused by our government's boom-and-bust monetary policy. Any perceived deflation in the American economy is the result of the end of the inflationary period of the nineties that created the stock market bubble. When the bubble burst, there was the inevitable process of liquidating bad investments caused by the misallocation of credit as a result of the Federal Reserve monetary policy. In fact, this liquidation is necessary for the economy to recover from the economic misallocations caused by the Federal Reserve's monetary policy.

Unfortunately, rather than finally putting an end to the boom-and-bust cycle, most in Washington are preparing to resume the cycle by calling on the Federal Reserve and the Treasury to flood the economy with new money. If Congress is not going to stabilize the American economy by reforming our unstable monetary policy, it should at least refrain from using this government failure as an excuse to further restrict the American people's liberty through an odious carry tax. I therefore hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this legislation.

FOREIGN RELATIONS AUTHORIZATION ACT, FISCAL YEARS 2004 AND 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 15, 2003*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1950) to authorize appropriations for the Department of State for the fiscal years 2004 and 2005, to authorize appropriations under the Arms Export Control Act and the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 for security assistance for fiscal years 2004 and 2005, and for other purposes:

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of full and continued funding for the United Nations Population Fund, or UNFPA. Since beginning operations in 1969, the UNFPA has provided over \$6 billion in vital maternal and child health programs to women in 150 countries around the world.

This makes the UNFPA the single largest global source of multilateral funding for maternal health and family planning programs. The United States' contribution alone to the UNFPA last year provided approximately 870,000 women in developing countries with modern contraception, thereby preventing 500,000 unwanted pregnancies, 200,000 abortions, and thousands of maternal and child deaths.

The programs supported by UNFPA are both timely and relevant. In the past eight months, UNFPA has delivered modern obstetric care to such locations as Kinshasa, in the

Democratic Republic of the Congo; Kabul, Afghanistan; and Baghdad, Iraq, helping to rebuild reproductive health services in the places where they are needed the most. Its campaigns to prevent the spread of HIV and AIDS have reached five continents and more than 140 nations. It would be no exaggeration to say that the UNFPA has been on the cutting edge of health care delivery the world over.

These programs, so vital to families around the world, depend on the support of 136 donor countries, including the United States. By our continued support for UNFPA, we recognize the importance of global reproductive health services and ensure that the Population Fund will be able to continue delivering them.

Indeed, the costs of ending our support for UNFPA are staggering. The \$34 million denied to UNFPA in 2002 would have prevented some two million unwanted pregnancies, 800,000 abortions, 4,700 maternal deaths, nearly 60,000 cases of maternal illness or disability, and 77,000 infant and child deaths.

The amendment offered in the House International Relations Committee by my colleague, Mr. CROWLEY, has made our support for these programs possible, while still maintaining the highest standards for human rights, ensuring that each dollar provided to the UNFPA will be used for the promotion of the noble ends that it was created to serve. Any cuts or restrictions to UNFPA funding levels will only jeopardize the health and well-being of millions of women the world over.

Mr. Chairman, members of the House, I thank you for your time, and I urge my colleagues to oppose cutting amendments and resume our support for the UNFPA, which will continue—with our assistance—to deliver vital family planning and reproductive health services to families around the globe.

#### FOREIGN RELATIONS AUTHORIZATION ACT, FISCAL YEARS 2004 AND 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 15, 2003*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1960) to authorize appropriations for the Department of State for the fiscal years 2004 and 2005, to authorize appropriations under the Arms Export Control Act and the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 for security assistance for fiscal year 2004 and 2005, and for other purposes:

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of this bill, though there are provisions in it that concern me.

First, I voted against the rule as it prevented the House from considering important amendments. Among them were amendments urging U.S. leadership, by participating in negotiations on climate change, to reduce greenhouse gases and providing funding for removal of land mines and agricultural redevelopment of former mine fields.

The rule did allow the consideration of an amendment that passed by just five votes, reversing the position taken by the House International Relations Committee on funding for the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

I voted against that amendment, and I am discouraged by the continuing refusal of the House to consider the facts when it comes to UNFPA. Allegations against UNFPA in China have never been substantiated despite the fact the program has endured more scrutiny than any other UNFPA program. But despite the findings of the Administration's own investigation team in July 2002 that UNFPA is not engaged in any coercive activity in China, President Bush canceled the \$34 million allocated for UNFPA in FY2003 and requested no money for the program in FY2004. I will continue to fight for funding for UNFPA's important mission and for the right of foreign organizations that provide information about reproductive health care to receive U.S. aid.

The House also voted on an amendment sponsored by Representatives HOSTETTLER, GALLEGLY, and TANCREDI. I want to clarify the reasons for my opposition to this amendment, which sets standards for consular identification cards issued by foreign governments and used in the United States. The amendment provides that if foreign governments do not abide by the strict U.S. standards, the U.S. government will refuse to issue any visas to foreign nationals from those countries.

I believe protecting our national security requires that we know who is in our country, and I agree that establishing a set of standards for consular identification cards would increase their legitimacy and decrease fraudulent use of the cards. But I did not believe that the Hostettler amendment approached the problem in the right way. Forcing foreign governments to abide by U.S. standards for consular identification cards is an unprecedented attempt to change how a country relates to its own nationals in a host country, and is likely in breach of the Foreign Missions Act and the Vienna Convention on Consular Affairs. Implementation of this amendment would also set a very dangerous precedent for our embassies abroad. In addition, I understand that the Administration will soon unveil its own proposal for standardization of these consular identification cards. So in my view, the Hostettler amendment not only had technical problems, but it was also premature.

Despite these concerns, I am a strong supporter of our foreign aid programs and our international institutions, and so I support this bill.

I am pleased that the bill authorizes assistance to the Palestinian Authority to improve the Palestinian economy and living conditions of the Palestinian people. I am pleased that the bill includes increased funding for the Migration and Refugee Assistance program. I am also pleased that the bill includes funding for UNESCO and that it permits the U.S. to pay its full assessment for U.N. peacekeeping efforts in each of the next two years.

Most importantly, I am pleased that the bill includes the Hyde-Lantos amendment authorizing the Millennium Challenge Account program and reauthorizing the Peace Corps. The Peace Corps provisions come from H.R. 250, the Peace Corps Charter for the 21st Century Act, a bill that I introduced with my colleague Representative FARR earlier this year.

We worked across party lines, with the Administration, and with returned Peace Corps volunteers to come up with this important bill.

My own background as an educator and director at Outward Bound for twenty years taught me about the importance of national

and community service. But I also have strong connections to the Peace Corps—through my great state of Colorado and through my family. Colorado has one of the highest levels of recruitment of Peace Corps volunteers nationwide, and returned Peace Corps Volunteers in the 2nd Congressional District alone number over 500. Of course, the most important Peace Corps connection for me is my mother, who served as a volunteer in Nepal decades ago.

Because of these connections I have a special interest in advancing the ability of the Peace Corps to play an important role in these new times.

As Americans, we are proud of our country, our freedoms, our democracy, our diversity. We know how fortunate we are to live in the United States. And yet we were sent a clear message on September 11th that we are not necessarily viewed abroad the way we view ourselves at home. Why is this so? More importantly, how can we change this?

One way is to continue to promote world peace and friendship through the people-to-people approach of the Peace Corps. After more than forty years of existence, the Peace Corps remains one of the most admired and successful initiatives ever put in place. But it needs to be updated to reflect the realities of our 21st century world, and that's what the Farr-Udall bill will do.

The bill we're introducing today meets the Administration's challenge to double the size of the Peace Corps to 14,000 by 2007. The bill also goes beyond this to propose a new post-9-11 "Charter" for the Peace Corps. Other highlights:

It spells out a commitment to recruit and place Peace Corps volunteers in countries where they could help promote mutual understanding, particularly in areas with substantial Muslim populations.

It establishes training programs for Peace Corps volunteers in the areas of education, prevention, and treatment of infectious diseases, such as HIV/AIDS.

The bill creates a grant program to enable Returned Peace Corps Volunteers to use their experience and expertise to continue to carry out the goals of the Peace Corps through specific projects.

This bill will pave the way for an expanded and refocused Peace Corps that can take on the new challenges that September 11th has presented to us, a Peace Corps that can be—as Sargent Shriver stated—"a pragmatic and dramatic symbol of America's commitment to peace." I believe that passage of the Peace Corps Charter for the 21st Century will help us head in this direction.

Again, I thank my colleague Representative FARR for working with me so closely on this legislation. I look forward to working with our colleagues in the Senate to agree on final text and to move this bill closer to enactment.

#### IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF CHARLES WHITMAN JONES

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 2003*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Charles Whitman